

(U_3O_8). AMD has intensified uranium exploration activities in potential areas by way of increased inputs in Airborne and Ground Geophysical surveys, detailed surveys and drilling. As a result of these efforts, it is envisaged the situation will progressively improve in the XI Plan.

Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a public sector undertaking under the DAE besides operating four mines at Jaduguda, Bhatin, Narwapahar and Turamdih, has taken up development of three new mines at Banduhurang, Bagjata and Mohuldih and is setting up a Processing Plant at Turamdih in Singhbhum (East) Jharkhand. Pre-project activities have been started for taking up projects at Tummalapalle and Lambapur-Peddagattu in Andhra Pradesh, Mawthabah in Meghalaya and Gogi in Karnataka.

Uranium Exploration

3039. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are stepping up the Uranium exploration and mining; and

(b) if so, whether foreign private companies are being delegated to do this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, some of the activities may be outsourced to them.

Enhancement of Nuclear Power Generation

3040. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to enhance power generation in the country through nuclear power;

(b) how far India stand *vis-a-vis* other Asian countries as far as total power generation in the nuclear field is concerned;

(c) whether private sector is being encouraged and provided incentives to go in for private projects in the field of nuclear power generation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Six nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 3160 MWe are presently under construction in addition to 17 nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 4120 MWe in operation. The installed nuclear power capacity will progressively increase to 7280 MWe by end of XI plan on completion of projects under construction. More units are also planned to further increase the installed capacity.

(b) The details of nuclear power generating capacity in Asian countries are as unde:

Country	Nuclear Share in 2006(%)	In Operation		Under Construction	
		No. of Reactors	Installed capacity Net (MWe)	No. of Reactors	Net Capacity (MWe)
Republic of Korea	38.6	20	17716	1	1000
Japan	30.0	55	49580	1	912
Pakistan	2.7	2	462	1	325
India	2.6	17	4120	6	3160
China	1.9	10	8018	5	4553

Source: PRIS, IAEA

(c) and (d) The Atomic Energy Act, 1962 presently allows setting up of nuclear power stations only by Government companies. Two Government companies, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI Ltd.) are presently engaged in setting up and operating nuclear power reactors. No decision has been taken with regard to private sector participation in the field of nuclear power generation.